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Held at Headquarters, New York, on Tuesday, 26 February 2002 at 10 a.m.

Chairman: Mr. Al-Hinai (Oman)

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The meeting was called to order at 10.35 a.m.

Agenda item 117: Elimination of racism and racial discrimination (*continued*) (A/C.3/56/L.84/Rev.1 and L.87)

1. **The Chairman** said that further consultations were required before the draft resolution could be considered for adoption.

The meeting was suspended at 10.40 a.m. and resumed at 12.35 p.m.

Draft resolution A/C.3/56/L.84/Rev.1

2. **Ms. Kislinger** (Venezuela), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, introduced the draft resolution on the comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance and made oral amendments to the text. In the eighth preambular paragraph, the following phrase should replace the first two lines: "*Emphasizing* that, in the implementation of commitments undertaken under the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, adequate resources at the national, regional and international levels are necessary,"; the last clause of the paragraph should be deleted. In paragraph 6, "calls upon" should be replaced by "invites". Paragraph 15 should be deleted. In paragraph 16, "also" should be deleted. In paragraph 17, in the first line, the word "a" should be deleted. The following phrase should be inserted after "World Conference": "and decides to consider the progress made in this regard, as well as to consider, overall, the modalities of the review and appraisal, at its fifty-ninth session;".

3. Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom had joined the sponsors of the draft resolution.

4. **The Chairman** said that the statement of programme budget implications for the draft resolution was contained in document A/C.3/56/L.87. The Czech Republic, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Turkey had joined the sponsors. A recorded vote had been requested.

5. **Mr. Jacob** (Israel), speaking in explanation of vote before the vote, said that his delegation would not join the consensus on the draft resolution before the Committee. The hijacking of the Durban Conference to isolate and attack Israel had done a great disservice to those who would have benefited from genuine action against racism, and represented a decisive step backwards in efforts to erase racism and racial discrimination. The actions of some delegations and organizations in singling out one country and people had increased hatred. For that reason, his delegation, along with the United States of America, had been compelled to withdraw from the conference.

6. His delegation further regretted that the Palestinian-Israeli conflict had been invoked repeatedly. That conflict was not racial, but rather political and territorial, involving two peoples, both with rights, grievances and aspirations that could only be resolved by a renunciation of violence and a commitment to negotiations conducted in a spirit of compromise and mutual recognition. The exploitation of the Durban Conference to advance the Palestinian cause served neither the cause nor the common objective of ending racism and racial discrimination. Finally, his delegation regretted that, in the course of consultations on the draft resolution, certain delegations had sought to eliminate any reference to anti-Semitism, at a time of a worrisome surge in attacks against Jews and Jewish institutions in various parts of the world.

7. Israel fully supported international efforts aimed at eradicating racism, racial discrimination and related forms of intolerance. But because it was opposed to racism, it could not support the outcome of the conference. Similarly, it could not accept that outcome as the basis on which the international community conducted its fight against racism. Israel's dedication to the pursuit of peace, justice and equality remained as strong as ever, and it would continue to promote those ideals both at home and abroad.

8. *A recorded vote was taken on draft resolution A/C.3/56/L.84/Rev.1.*

In favour:

Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte

d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao Peoples' Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Israel, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Australia, Canada.

9. *Draft resolution A/C.3/56/L.84/Rev.1, as orally amended, was adopted by 137 votes to 2, with 2 abstentions.*

The meeting rose at 1.10 p.m.